

69-6921

October 12, 1964

Mr. John A. McCone
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McCone:

The Joint Economic Committee of the Congress is planning to undertake another up-to-date quantitative survey on the current performance of the economy of the U.S.S.R. We are thinking of a format quite similar to that of the 218-page study Annual Economic Indicators for the U.S.S.R., published by the Committee in February 1964.

In this connection, we are hopeful that we can again count on the cooperation of your agency, which generously carried so large a part of the research burden in the preparation of the 1964 study. As you are undoubtedly aware, this study, as well as its several predecessors, have become indispensable tools of research for the congressional community as well as for serious scholars with an interest in the Soviet economy, both at home and abroad.

In the light of your special capabilities, we should like to request that you provide us with selected current statistical tabulations on the following major sectors of the economy:

1. Industry
2. Investment
3. Transportation and Communication
4. Trade and Consumer Services
5. The State Budget
6. Foreign Trade.

In connection with the sector "Trade and Consumer Services," we should like to identify a particular set of indicators that are of recurrent interest to Members of Congress, namely, a comparative set of indicators of levels of consumption by the population of the

Mr. John A. McCone, October 12, 1964, p. 2

U.S.S.R. By way of a model, it may be useful to think of some modification of the table on the same subject published by Mrs. Janet G. Chapman in the January issue of the Monthly Labor Review (p. 12), 1963.

With respect to the matter of scheduling, we hope that the material in question might be made available to the Committee by the middle of December in order to enable us to bring the study out as early as possible after the turn of the year. If you have any questions, please contact either Mr. Leon M. Herman of the Library of Congress (Code 173, Extension 8014), who has been working with the staff in coordinating materials for this study, or Mr. James W. Knowles, Executive Director of the Committee staff.

Faithfully yours,

Paul H. Douglas
Chairman

Enclosure

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Remarks: This is a copy of a letter to the DCI from Sen. Douglas in his capacity as chairman of the Joint Economic Committee. I have sent the original to ORR for action. The letter was received from O/DCI today. I will prepare acknowledgment for DCI's signature.			
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